SD 9/ 38-39

1938-39
CB

CB File No 38
Sl-nos

CB-15-38
Sl-No 105

9-24

Subject - proceedings of meetings of princes and Ministers held at Bombay on 9-6 39 in connection with the Instrument of Accession and other matters

Cmpl. Cl. No 36/38-39

App. F. IX-4

Previous References (1938-39 CB) 23 **File No.**

Serial Nos.

Letter References

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos.

Part B for

SUBJECT.

Proceedings of meetings of Princes & Ministers held at Bombay on 9.6.39 in connection with the Chamber of Accession & other matters

WD 0295—GPB—22,500—18-8-37

St. No. 146

CONFIDENTIAL.

Collection No. 36 of 38-3

Year 1938—1939.

General and Revenue Secretariat.

Confidential Branch.

C-B 15-38-105

B 7 of 1939

SUBJECT ....

Letter addressed to the Residency regarding the conduct of Messrs. T. R. Desai and M. P. Patel, Parliamentary Secretaries, Bombay Govt., in connection with their recent speeches in Rajpipla.

PREVIOUS REFERENCES.	LATER REFERENCES.

WD 1915—GPB—500—24-2-30

Mysore Congress-men and Aesthetics

Reply to Dewan's Criticism

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

MYSORE, Jan. 3.

A tribute to the sacrifices made by Mysoreans during the Civil Disobedience movement in British India was paid last night by Mr Gudlappe Hullikere, Secretary, Karnataka Provincial Congress Committee. Mr T. R. Nasvi and Mr M. P. Patil, Parliamentary Secretaries to the Bombay Government, at a public meeting under the auspices of the Mysore City Congress Committee.

Mr T. Siddalingiah, President of the Mysore State Congress, who presided, referred to some recent utterances of Sir Mirza Ismail, Dewan, which, he said, were intended to "disparage" the activities of the Mysore Congress. The Dewan had stated that a section of the public did not want beautification of the State and the aesthetic sense of the Mysore Government was anethema to them. Mr Siddalingiah said that the Dewan obviously had in mind the criticism of Congress-men who unequivocally condemned the policy of the Government in beautifying urban areas at the expense of rural areas.

The Speaker still maintained that the criticism was just. It was a fallacy on the part of the Dewan to say that Congress-men were devoid of any aesthetic sense No doubt, they did want beautification, but at the same time the villages, which numbered over 17,000, in the State should also have the same amenities as urban areas

While the villages were badly in need of drinking-water wells, sanitation, schools, hospitals and communications, the Government spent lavishly lakhs of rupees on urban areas. Such a policy, he said, was short-sighted and deserved to be condemned.

Concluding Mr Siddalingiah protested against public buildings being named after Government officials.

Mr Rangaramiah, proposed a vote of thanks.

3.

MADRAS MAIL, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 1939

Source of Strength to South

Tribute to Madras Premier

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

MYSORE, Jan. 3.

Messrs Gudlappe Hullikere, T. R. Nasvi and M. P. Patil, Karnataka Congress-men who are here had a busy programme to-day. Accompanied by Mr M. C. Mallappa, Provincial Secretary of the All-India States' Peoples' Conference, they visited the Silk Factory, Sandal Oil Factory, Technical Institute, the Mysore Zoo and Brindavan. They had an informal talk with the members of the City Congress Committee.

Mr Gudlappe Hullikere, who is Secretary of the Karnataka Provincial Congress Committee in an interview said: "I am not very sanguine about the outcome of the Constitutional Reforms Committee appointed by the Mysore Government. At best, they can recommend the introduction of dyarchy. In order to serve the interests of the masses the Congress should obtain complete responsible government The only solution then will be direct action. The Congress in the meantime should concentrate its energy in popularising the movement and should also enrol members throughout the State.

JEWEL OF KARNATAKA

"Mysore is the pride and jewel of Karnataka. If Karnataka Province as a whole should develop, Mysore should give a lead. The culture, education, intelligent thinking and aesthetic sense of Mysore should permeate throughout Karnataka and only then we can exist as a distinct Province. For this Mysore should obtain responsible Government."

Concluding, Mr Gudlappe deprecated the tendency on the part of "disgruntled communalists" in the Madras Presidency to revive the bogy of Brahmin versus non-Brahmins.

(Continued in next column)

(Concluded from previous column)

The people in Karnataka had always cherished an ambition that they should follow the lead given by Rajaji (Mr C. Rajagopalachariar, Premier) who was rightly considered to be a source of strength to the South. So long as Rajaji remained at the head of the Ministry, they were sure that the interests of the people were safe and Rajaji would not rest content till the condition of the masses was improved.

DEWAN'S OFFICE
5 JAN. 1939
No.....

Two cuttings.

Submitted. The Parliamentary under Secretaries of the Bombay Government took part in the public meeting in which the Government of Mysore was strongly criticised.

Chief Secretary

S Rangaly
5-1-39

MRS
5.1.39

Dewan) a very able & mark

MRS
5.1.39

MRS
5.1.39

MRS
5-1-39 CB.

MRS
6/1/39

the Govt I wish we Record. objects the conduct of Mysore people.

(C. Sec)

Serial No.

OFFICE OF THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL
JAN 23 1939
No. S 800

DEWAN'S OFFICE
23 JAN 1939
No. 52-39.

5501

Subd. with a draft.
For appl,
GJ 19/1.

MRS 20/1/39

1st member & Dewan

NLM 22/1/39

Please refer to my
remarks & letter on the subject
again.

Do 23-1-39

Draft as revised by me
May issue — & intimation for the Hon'ble
information of Members. JM 24-1-39

MRS 25/1

(Issued) No. Do. Pol. 916 | CB 15-38-105 dated 26.1.1939. to the Secy to the Hon'ble the Resident.
D.J.N. Subd:
Dewan)

MRS 30/1/39

NOTE—Contn. Sheet.

WD 0544—GPB—30,000—2-9-83

Submitted to His Highness.

B.

I submit herewith for the gracious information of His Highness a copy of letter dated 28th January 1939 addressed to the Residency regarding the conduct of Messrs T. R. Nesvi and M. P. Patel, Parliamentary Secretaries, Bombay Government, in connection with certain speeches delivered by them at Mysore and Shimoga during their recent visit to the State.

Mirza M. Ismail

Bangalore,
30th January 1939.

DEWAN.

Record of Cases submitted for the Orders of His Highness the Maharaja.

Subject.

Letter addressed to the Residency regarding the conduct of Messrs. T.R. Nesvi and M.P. Patel, Parliamentary Secretaries, Bombay Government, in connection with their recent speeches in Mysore.

Chief Secy
MS
3-2-39

No. 523

Order.

~~KRW~~
1/2/39

MS
3.2.39

H. H. 524 11

General and Revenue
Secretariat.

SUBJECT:—

Letter addressed to the Residency regarding the conduct of Messrs. T. R. Nesvi and M. P. Patel, Parliamentary Secretaries, Bombay Government, in connection with their recent speeches in Rajpore.

(*)

31. All urgent or confidential files returned with His Highness' orders may in the absence of instructions or indications to the contrary, be ordinarily circulated to the Members of Council for perusal after the issue of orders.

33. The Secretaries concerned should see that orders in the cases referred to above are issued at once and that the files are returned immediately after to the Chief Secretary for circulation to the Members.

34. In all other cases, the files will first be circulated to the Members of Council at Headquarters and then sent to the Secretariat concerned for the issue of orders.

Circulated to Members of Council for perusal of His Highness' orders ~~before~~ / after issue of orders. (*Vide* Rules 31, 33 and 34 of the Subsidiary Rules for the conduct of business of Council in the Manual of Council Rules and Procedure.)

Chief Secretary to Government.

Through the Secretary to Government,

.....Department.

6 7 4
3.2.39

FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL. 3/2/39

C.T
4.2.39

SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL.

Copy B.

C.B.
6/2/39

NOTE.—Contn. sheet.

WD 1467—GPB—500—23-2-38

Political

Confidential Branch.

C 5162

Speeches delivered by Messrs Patel and Nesvi, Parliamentary Secretaries, Bombay Government.

- - -

Affairs Committee.

13

To

The Secretary to the Hon'ble
the Resident in Mysore,
BANGALORE.

Record Copy.

Sir,

I am directed to state that during their recent visit to this State, Messrs. T.R. Nesvi and M.P. Patel, Parliamentary Secretaries, Bombay Government, attended certain political meetings at Mysore and Shimoga on the 2nd and 5th January 1939, at which the Government of Mysore came in for strong criticism. I am to enclose copies of the speeches reported to have been made by them at those meetings.

I am to invite particular attention to the following extract from the speech of Mr. Patel, delivered at Mysore on the 2nd January 1939:-

> "Many were of the opinion that the administration was good and the people were wealthy and prosperous. But it is otherwise. This system of present administration must go and a good one responsible for the people must come in its place. ..... Though there is any particular Dewan or particular Highness, as long as the present system of administration remains, there will be no salvation for you. It is your right to ask for a better system of administration."

Mr. Nesvi expressed himself at the same meeting as follows:-

> "What is the use of Rajas who sit upon their thrones with palpitating hearts? ..... If the Government does not care for the welfare of the people then what is the use of such Government? Such a system of Government must be abandoned and a separate one must be placed in its stead. It is immaterial whether there is a responsible Government or the Government of His Highness."

Mr. Nesvi is reported to have said at another meeting at Shimoga that "at present the Representative Assembly Members in Mysore are not treated as peoples' representatives and their representatives (?) are cast aside, and ruled out by the higher powers in the

Assembly."

The Government of Mysore extended every courtesy to these officers and afforded them every facility to visit various places and institutions in the State. It is a matter of regret that these gentlemen who hold official positions in a neighbouring Province should have made use of the opportunity of their visit to criticise this Government and to criticise it in such strong terms. And it is a matter of regret that they should have participated in meetings of a subversive character.

I am to request that these facts may kindly be brought to the notice of the Government of Bombay.

I have etc.,

Chief Secretary to Government.

29-7-35

15

26th January 1939.

D.O. Pol. 916/28
CS 15-38-105

H. Trevelyan, Esqr., I.C.S.,

I am directed to state that during their recent visit to this State, Messrs. T.R.Nesvi and M.P.Patel, Parliamentary Secretaries, Bombay Government, attended certain political meetings at Mysore and Shimoga on the 2nd and 5th January 1939, at which the Government of Mysore came in for strong criticism. I am to enclose copies of the speeches reported to have been made by them at those meetings.

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17

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I am to request that these facts may kindly be brought to the notice of the Government of Bombay.

I have the honour to be,

S i r,

Your most obedient servant,

Chief Secretary to Government.

MR. T. R. NESVI, Parliamentary Secretary to Bombay Government, next spoke thus -

My friend, Mr. Pateel, Parliamentary Secretary, will speak something after the closure of my speech. The revenue of the Bombay Government is 12 crores of rupees, whereas the revenue of your State is 4 crores of rupees. All educated people may know the idea of one crore of rupees. For those people who are uneducated I will give a simile - just equal to one cartload of money. Many people might have come here to see the Parliamentary Secretaries. But those people might be disappointed to see us in this robe. Whatever, we try to do we will do it with all our heart. That is the way in which we are doing our things in our Presidency. To-day I want to speak upon the subject, "People and Government". What kind of Government do you require? Do you want elected and responsible ministers or a single person appointed to act as a minister? In our country, the ministers are elected; but in your country the ministers are appointed. Since the ministers are elected in our country, we have to come down if we are asked to descend. Responsible Government means that the ministers must be responsible for the people who elected them. It means in short a kind of government in which "one rules for himself". There is no provision anywhere for any person to rule another person. Every person is independent, he should rule over himself. There must be no slavery at all. There is provision in any constitution to protect and not to rule. All the persons below 18 years must be protected. There is no law for the elders. All the laws are there only for the mischievous people. The laws do not exist for good and law-abiding people. Then you may put the question, "How is it possible to rule one's own self". We want a system of Government in which there is provision for any person to rule for himself. In Bombay Govern-

ment there are 7 ministers who are elected by the people and who are responsible for the people. Though we have some kind of idependence we have not got complete Swaraj. Since 1½ years, the elected ministers are ruling the Country in British India. If there is any good clause in the India Act of 1935, it is the clause regarding the rule of the elected ministers. Before the advent of Provincial Autonomy, we had the same kind of Government as you have for the present. Formerly, the people who showed the favour for the Governors used to get some responsible posts. They might have become ministers. Now, that time is gone. The people who wants the favour of the Governors must go home. The leader of the Majority Party in the Legislature will be called by the Governor to form a cabinet. The power of the Governor is restricted to asking a certain person to form a cabinet. Then that leader of the party will become the Prime Minister. You must have such system of administration. You may ask me, "Are there any kings like this". Yes. There are many. England is an example of my illustration. The Ex-King wanted to marry a lady by name Sympson. The Parliament gave him one alternative - to marry Sympson and to relinquish the throne or to remain as King. He took the first alternative and relinquished the throne for the sake of marrying a lady. The power of the Parliament is so great that it can control the domestic affairs of the King himself The King must understand that he is your servant. The Government is there only on account of you. It must strive its best to do you good. If any person does not know these basic principles, you must make him know it. There was maxim that Raja was the direct Devata. Now that time is gone. It must changed into Raja is the direct Sevaka. (Claps). If the Government works hard for the welfare of the people and gives all the people what they want - namely the bare necessaries of life, then the Raja is the direct Devata. What is the use of the Government which does not care for its people. What is the use of the Rajas who sit upon their thrones with palpitating hearts. The Government must work with with idea of making you rich and prosperous. According to the

India Act of 1935, there are some special powers vested in the hands of the Governor. Though the Governor has not exercised his special powers till now, there is provision for his exercise of the same. For about 4 months there was an interim ministry working in the Provinces. Then the Congress Ministers took the power into their hands. Without power and money nothing can be done. Out of the total revenue of 12 crores of rupees, nearly 5½ crores of rupees must be spent upon the salaries of Govt. servants. The salary of the Governor is Rs.10,000/- apart from the allowances. We have no power to check the All India Service people. They are protected by the India Act. Again we cannot afford to cut the salaries of the poor Constables and others. What all we are empowered to do, is that we can exercise some kind of control over those people who are working under the Provincial service and who are getting more than 200 or 300 rupees. Whenever I go on tour, I usually receive nearly 8 or 10 petitions from each village. There are nearly 21,000 villages in our presidency. Is it ever possible to redress the grievances of the villagers from the money that is left after meeting the salaries of the Government servants? Of course, the demands of the villagers are just. There are no better medical facilities, educational facilities, conveyance facilities and etc. When I see the misery of the poor people and being at the helm of power if I am unable to redress their grievances, it seems to me better to resign my post. I was bred and born in villages. As such I know the difficulties of the villagers. The salaries of the newly recruited persons in the grade of 200 or 300 rupees can be cut down. That we are trying to do gradually. The Congress is trying its best to ameliorate the conditions of the poor within the ambits of the 1935 India Act. The Britishers must think that we are capable of administering with any kind of limitations and at last being disgusted, they must give us complete independence. Though there are clauses in the India Act to the effect that the Ministers can take a salary of Rs.4,000

we are taking a salary of Rs.500/- only. Thus we are evolving a constitution of our own, though there is no provision for the same in the India Act of 1935. There may be some persons in our presidency who are waiting for their chance in the incoming Federation. They are thinking that they may have a chance of getting a salary of Rs.4,000/- But it is only a dream. They can never think of that salary. The present ministers are doing their best to win the favour of the people by doing many good measures. If any successors take a salary of Rs.4,000/- they will be fooled. I am only speaking in a restricted manner since I am a responsible person. If I were not the parliamentary secretary, I might have spoken in a very different manner. Now, there are no Congress Ministries in Sind, Bengal and the Punjab. Now I will tell you some of the works done by the Congress Ministries. Out of the total revenue of 12 crores of rupees nearly 5½ crores are being spent upon the salaries of the Government. In the remaining amount of money, many works are to be carried out. The roads of our country are very bad. There are no facilities for drinking water. Our predecessors ruled the country from 150 years and as a result of that, there is no betterment in the condition of the poor people. They say that we are educated. Whose is the fault? It is the fault of the Government in keeping us uneducated. They have not given us anything. We have taken all with force. Education is a primary necessity. It has been proposed to put the Wardha System of education into practice. According to it, some industry will be taught to the students and the proceeds will be sold in the market; thus the salary of the teachers is realised. Mahatma Gandhi can extract oil from sand. There are severe criticisms against the Wardah system of education. In Tagadur that system of education is put into practice. If all of us work according to the advice of Mahatma Gandhi, then the India Act of 1935 will remain as it is and another act which is according to our wishes will come into force. The system of administration in which we are working is only a shadow of Responsible Government.

Mahatma Gandhi is working day and night for the welfare of the villagers. In fact, I know the difficulties of the poor better than many people. While I studied, I collected money from many charitable persons and thus I gave the tuition fees to the College. The Viceroy gets a salary of Rs.21,000/- per month. Now, it does not matter for us whether there is White Mari or Black Mari. Let there be any kind of person at the helm of power and let him work for the benefit of the people. On our way from Bangalore, we had been invited to a certain place near Closepet. When we were going towards that place, our car became out of order and we were unable to proceed further. It seems that there were many persons awaiting for us in order to see us, since we were parliamentary secretaries. When they heard the car was out of order, they were wonder struck. They had thought that the car of the Parliamentary Secretary would never give way. Here there may be some persons who take down our names. Let them do their work. I will say that this system of administration that is existing to-day must change. We must ask ourselves which came first into existence - whether the Government or the people? First of all, the people came into this world. When some quarrels arose between ourselves, then a system of control came into existence, which gradually grew into a Govt. The Government is there to protect us. If the Government does not care for the welfare of the people, then what is the use of such a Government? Such a system of Government must be abandoned and a separate one must be placed in its stead. It is immaterial whether there is a responsible Government or the Government of His Highness. If there are any persons who record the speech, let them take this down. When I go on tour many people call me "Sahib" ( ). What is the use of such a Sahib who has no power to redress your grievances. When the people present a petition to me for the sanction of a well for the sake of getting drinking water, I am unable to sanction enough money for sinking a well. Though it is explicitly told that no "Addresses" are to

be presented and no offerings of garlands to be made, yet I am troubled with these things. There is no sedition in speaking like this against the Government. If any Government, working for the good of the people, is severely criticised so as to lessen its esteem in the eyes of the public, then it is sedition, and not otherwise. When you have Responsible Government, you will have better reason to respect the laws of the country, since the laws are made by your representatives. Within the ambits of India Act 1935, we are working hard for the betterment of the poor villagers. I will tell you one word of advice. I request you all to join the Congress and strengthen it as much as you can, since there may be a time when you will repent for not joining the Congress. In our presidency many people are now repenting for not joining the Congress. They think that they might have become ministers, if only they had joined the Congress. To avoid such a disappointment, I request all of you to join the Congress. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru has recently toured all over the Continent. He has spread the mission of India to the outside world. So also the East is requiring our mission.' Some people are thinking that we will resign at the event of the incoming of the Federation. We will not resign at all. If we resign, it will be very difficult for our successors to go on with their ministry. We have introduced prohibition. Though our resources are very small, we are venturing upon introducing bold reforms which were not even contemplated at the time of our predecessors. We will set up such a system of administration that our successors will be forced to follow our lines of policy or they will be forced to resign. In our presidency there were many parties before the Congress regime. But now, we have only one party - the Congress party. Once more I request all of you to join the Congress and strengthen it.

MR. M. P. PATEEL, Parliamentary Secretary, Bombay Govt., next spoke thus.-

It is already getting late. But I am requested to deliver a speech. I must say that I do not know Kannada well. Yet I will try to speak in Kannada. Many of us believed that Mysore was wealthy and it is an exception to all other States and Provinces. But is as poor as any other country. There are many poor people who have no sufficient food or clothing. Many were of the opinion that the administration was good and the people were wealthy and prosperous. But it is otherwise. This system of present administration must go and a good one responsible for the people must come in its place. In other words, you must get Responsible Government. It is your duty to shun all the facilities and riches and to agitate for the achievement of Responsible Government. Though there is any particular Dewan or particular Highness, as long as the present system of administration remains there will be no salvation for you. It is your right to ask for a better system of administration. This question is standing before the whole of India. Really there is no division of India into British India and Indian India. The worst system of administration that was prevailing in British India has gone; but the same is yet remaining in the Indian States. If there is any party working for the good of the country in India, it is only the Congress party. If Swaraj is to be achieved, it is to be achieved with the help of the Congress. My friends have appealed to join the Congress. I will also request you to join the Congress in its fight towards the achievement of Responsible Government.

* * * * *

" Copy "

Chief Secretary to Govt.

(Public meeting held at Shimoga)
on 5th January 1939.

...

At 7-15 p.m. Mr. Nesvi addressed the audience. He regretted at the outset, for the absence of his two other comrades Messrs. M. P. Patel and Gudlappa Hallikeri. He stated that of late there has been going on in the Congress administration, a system of war not of violence, but of non-violence, based on the sound principles of ennunciated by Mahatma Gandhi and even the present Government is feeling nervous about the situation, the Congress Government having become a Powerful organisation and in participating in this war of nonviolence with the object of regaining swarajya, any amount of sacrifice is to be thought of as no sacrifice and the credit should be taken only after death.

He then dilated upon the question of appointment of ministers in Bombay Presidency at the time of British administration of the Presidency and contrasted the same with the mode of appointment of Ministers at present under the Congress administration.

That Congress Ministers should work with a spirit of setting an example to others in the system of administration and that the regime should not be allowed to get back to the hands of British people.

Mr. Nesvi then passed on to the subject of the pay of Ministers - how he himself being a Minister has set an example having accepted only Rs.500/- instead of Rs.4,000/- and now that

he is working under a small pay, his successors will necessarily have to work under the same pay.

Speaking about the Prohibition of Drinking Liquor, Mr. Nesvi added that the income derived out of the intoxicating liquor was nearly 3 crores and 13 lakhs in the Presidency almost in par with the income derived out of land revenue and some of the European members advised the impossibility of such a prohibition and emphasized that it was quite possible to put a stop to drinking evils not with the aid of the police but with the aid of Congress volunteers.

Next he spoke about home Industries in Rural Parts. That in Bombay Presidency nearly 5 crores of rupees out of 12 crores is being spent for salary, and the remaining amount is inadequate to meet the needs of the people by way of liberal Education etc. That Wardha scheme of Education is being introduced and the pay of the teachers is met from out of the sale of goods prepared by students. This would economise, and at the same time create facilities for students in the villages.

He then asserted that the British People who ruled Hindustan for the past 150 years, had neglected and ruined Hindustan and if they were really interested in Hindustan, they would not certainly have left the country in an uncivilised, poverty stricken, stage, devoid of all courage. That they have constructed Railways Telegraphs and other facilities for their personal safety and convenience and how they have flourished and how they have been getting on with all the culture, civilisation, tarred roads, drama, parks and other conveniences reserved exclusively for them.

He then spoke about "Responsible Government" - its objects and what it meant.

and that it was the legitimate claim of the people to urge for Responsible Government and that people should know the income of their Government and how it is expended and money should be spent with the assent of the people.

That at present the Representative Assembly members in Mysore are not treated as peoples' Representatives and their representatives are cast aside and ruled out by higher powers in the Assembly. He then explained that Congress had gained strength in recent years and that even the Government is yielding step by step and that the Police are also careful to submit exaggerated and false reports about congress leaders in the presidency for fear of loosing their job; and that prior to the congress rule in the presidency the Police were ill-~~xxxx~~ treating them.

He narrated his personal history and career in carrying on the congress activities in 1932, the harsh treatment he met with at the hands of the police of Hubli and Gadag and his confinements in Gadag Sub Jail along with 18 other convicts and prisoners in the lock-up which was kept in a hopelessly dirty condition and how the authorities neglected him and other convicts to give proper food, bath and other conveniences etc., and how things have automatically changed for the better since the advent of Congress Government in the Presidency. He finally appealed to the people to enlist as members of the Congress and co-operate in congress activities as Congress was the only able bodied organisation to redress their needs and to give them what they want. It is the only " ". All should join Congress whether Hindus, Muslims or other casts and Swaraj would surely be got.

He regretted for the absence of ladies in the meeting and insisted that ladies also should attend such meetings and partake in congress activities. His speech closed at 8-40 P.M

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11 (2) 41

Subject for the meeting of the Political Affairs Committee to be held on 3rd February 1939.

Speeches delivered by Messrs. Nesvi and Patel, Parliamentary Secretaries to the Government of Bombay, at Mysore and Shimoga.